

**ARRANGEMENT
BETWEEN
THE NEW ZEALAND CUSTOMS SERVICE
AND
THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF CUSTOMS OF THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF CHINA
ON
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A SYSTEM FOR EXCHANGING ELECTRONIC
ORIGIN DATA**

INTRODUCTION

The New Zealand Customs Service (NZCS) and the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) (hereinafter referred to as "Both Sides")

DESIRING to strengthen relations between Both Sides;

CONSIDERING the necessity of implementing effective and efficient management on trade in goods under preferential trade agreements;

RECOGNIZING that exchange of electronic origin data relating to goods traded under preferential trade agreements further facilitates compliant trade between Both Sides;

RECOGNIZING that exchange of electronic origin data relating to goods traded under preferential trade agreements supports a paperless trade environment that is more predictable, transparent and consistent which further improves the efficiency of trade between Both Sides;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that action against customs offences can be made more effective by exchanging of electronic origin data;

NOTING that Both Sides have successfully shared data with the Free Trade Agreement between the Government of New Zealand and the Government of the People's Republic of China (New Zealand China FTA) and that the exchange of electronic origin data facilitates the implementation of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Agreement; promotes economic cooperation, trade liberalization and paperless trade in the Asia-Pacific region; creates a more efficient, transparent and reliable trade environment; and drives the development of the Asia-Pacific economy;

Have come to the following understandings:

DEFINITIONS

1. For the purposes of this Arrangement:

"**Electronic Origin Data**" means the agreed minimum information requirements set

out in the New Zealand China FTA and RCEP for declaring or certifying origin data relating to goods via an electronic system.

“System” means the electronic system for origin information exchange, including the Joint Electronic Verification System (JEVS) administered by NZCS and the Electronic Origin Data Exchange System (EODES) administered by GACC as referred to in Chapter 4 of the New Zealand China FTA Upgrade.

PURPOSE

2. The purpose of this Arrangement is to support an effective and efficient electronic system for sharing origin information for goods traded between both sides under preferential trade agreements, such as the New Zealand China FTA and RCEP; to facilitate paperless trade; and to facilitate smooth and efficient trade and to strengthen compliance by traders.

EXCHANGE OF ELECTRONIC ORIGIN DATA

3. Both sides will facilitate the exchange of Electronic Origin Data for exporters and issuing bodies through a System as set out in preferential trade agreements.
4. In order to support future development of the System, both sides will continue to cooperate and share best practice experiences that support the real-time exchange of Electronic Origin Data.
5. Both sides will consider proposals put forward by either Side to further enhance the efficiency and usefulness of the System to further facilitate trade through the sharing of Electronic Origin Data.

UTILIZATION OF THE ELECTRONIC ORIGIN DATA

6. The Electronic Origin Data obtained via the System will only be used to determine whether goods traded under preferential trade agreements qualify as originating goods, for the purpose of granting preferential tariff treatment.
7. Neither side will use or further disclose the Electronic Origin Data provided via the System except in accordance with the provisions of this Arrangement and the respective free trade agreements.
8. Any Electronic Origin Data obtained via the System will not be used as evidence in judicial or administrative proceedings without prior written consent of the participant that facilitated the transfer of the Electronic Origin Data. For the avoidance of doubt, administrative proceeding does not include a decision to release goods traded under preferential trade agreements.

IMPLEMENTATION

9. This Arrangement will be implemented in accordance with the respective free trade agreements and respective applicable national laws and regulations of each Side.
10. Both Sides will nominate a contact point for the purpose of facilitating communications on issues related to this Arrangement. Both Sides will notify each other of the detailed information of the contact points and promptly notify any changes in writing.

11. The contact points will meet or communicate when necessary to review and discuss issues relating to implementation of this Arrangement.

12. As necessary, issues will be referred to the Committee on Rules of Origin under Chapter 4 in the New Zealand China FTA.

MODIFICATION

13. This Arrangement may be modified by mutual written consent of Both Sides.

ENTRY INTO EFFECT AND TERMINATION

14. This Arrangement will come into effect on the date of its signing by Both Sides.

15. Both Sides aim to implement the upgraded System by the end of 2023, with ongoing monitoring thereafter.

16. Either Side may terminate this Arrangement by giving six months' written notice to the other Side.

Signed in duplicate at *Auckland* on *11th* December 2023, in the Chinese and English languages, both texts having equal validity.



For the New Zealand Customs Service



For the General Administration of
Customs of the People's Republic of China